

OIA-100/78
21 November 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Office of Research and Development

SUBJECT : Imagery Analysis Support to [REDACTED]

STATINTL

Ph.1,

1. You will recall that at our meeting last week I identified a few new issues that influence how OIA can best provide support to the [REDACTED] effort during the coming year. We will, of course, honor our commitment to provide two man-years of support in FY '79, and I was pleased to hear that Hap Hazzard is willing to continue NPIC support through the end of the fiscal year. Given that the OER and ORD/OGCR efforts are not going to be consolidated as I previously thought they would be, I have talked to OER to get an understanding of their needs for imagery analysis support on the petroleum problem. I have also inventoried the analytical assets in OIA available to provide meaningful simultaneous support to OER and [REDACTED] and finally I have looked into the availability in [REDACTED] of the computer support necessary for [REDACTED]

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2. The bottom line is that I am convinced that we should take immediate actions aimed at moving the imagery analysis effort in support of [REDACTED] as soon as possible. Although this will entail some inconvenience for the ORD and OGCR people involved with [REDACTED] I don't really think we have much of an alternative. As Hap pointed out at the meeting, it is going to be painful to make the move regardless of when it is made.

3. Given the small base of experienced analysts available, I see no way that I will be able to provide both OER and [REDACTED] with the kind of quality support they deserve with two distinct groups of analysts working in different locations. I don't mean to imply that we intend to divert analysts from supporting [REDACTED] to supporting OER, but only that a group of analysts working essentially the same kind of problem will work more effectively and efficiently when they are colocated than when they are not -- especially given the wide range in experience levels which we have in this situation.

4. With regard to the computer support issue, my present understanding is that this should not be a problem. Indeed, the computer support facilities available in [REDACTED] should provide some distinct advantages -- e.g., the availability of keypunch personnel, the availability of high-speed printers, the availability of mensuration and plotting hardware and software to support some of the [REDACTED] efforts.

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5. In sum, I think we all agree that the move of the imagery analysis support to [REDACTED] is inevitable. I believe that there are compelling reasons for initiating the move now, but if you do not think that this is possible please let me know.

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[REDACTED]

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Noel E. Firth
Director
Imagery Analysis

Distribution:

Original - Addressee
1 - DD/NFAC
1 - D/OGCR
1 - D/OER
1 - D/NPIC
1 - C/IEG
1 - OIA/ODir
1 - OIA/ERD